

## **EAT AND DRINK NEARBY IN ARLINGTON**

(distances from Hilton Garden Inn Courthouse)

Coffee (and home-made baked goods):

- \* Simona Café 2507 Franklin Rd .4 mi
- \* Bayou Bakery 1515 N. Courthouse Rd .1 mi (beignets)

Lunch or a snack – **note that free breakfast is provided on Saturday May 4 and Sunday May 5 for our group!**

- \* Buy sandwiches at Whole Foods 2700 Wilson Blvd .5 mi (buy sandwiches before you depart to DC on Metro)
- \* Bayou Bakery 1515 N. Courthouse Rd .1 mi (New Orleans-style menu, can also buy sandwiches to go)
- \* Sweet Leaf Cafe 2200 Wilson Blvd .3 mi (everything organic, some vegan, breakfast & lunch sandwiches)
- \* Rhodeside Grill 1836 Wilson Blvd .4 mi (comfort food plus some good soups and salads)
- \* Board Room 925 N. Garfield St .8 mi (board games and pub food)
- \* Northside Social 3211 Wilson Blvd .9 mi (good food, Nice family favorite)

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### **Courthouse Metro**

.2 mile walk from Hilton Garden Inn on Courthouse Road. On Silver and Orange lines into DC.

### **Iwo Jima Memorial**

1.1 mile walk from Hilton Garden Inn on Courthouse Road (or a .7 mile walk from Rosslyn Metro). There are also Bikeshare docks near Iwo Jima (Meade and N. 14th Streets). This is the Marine Corps Memorial based on a famous photo from the World War II Battle of Iwo Jima.

### **Netherlands Carillon and view of Washington, DC**

.2 mile walk past Iwo Jima. This is a tower with 50 bells that were a gift from the Netherlands to the United States after WW2, with the location featuring a sweeping view of DC and in May there will be beautiful spring flowers. This park is open 6am through midnight so feel free to walk over late Friday or Saturday night or for sunrise for the classic view of the nation's capital and monuments including a view all the way to the US Capitol. The easiest way to get to the Netherlands Carillon is to walk from Iwo Jima – if you take Uber/Lyft you should get dropped off at Iwo Jima.

## **GETTING AROUND FOR ACTIVITIES DURING THE DAY**

If you are staying at the Hilton Garden Inn on Courthouse Road in Arlington you are within a 4-5 minute Uber/Lyft/taxi ride to the wedding venue (1 mi walk) or the Nice family's house (1.4 mi walk). The after party is { } from the hotel.

\* A Metro station is just a couple blocks from the hotel accommodations, providing a 10-minute train ride to DC. For all activities listed below you would take a Metro train into DC on either the Silver or Orange lines in the direction of either New Carrollton or Largo.

\* There are three [Capital Bikeshare](#) docks 1-3 blocks from the Hilton Garden Inn Courthouse (type in "Hilton Garden Inn Arlington" to see a map) and by the Rosslyn Metro is a Bikeshare station that commonly has bikes available (N. Lynn Street and N. Fairfax). There are bike trails to traverse to downtown DC and the National Mall, or over to Iwo Jima. If you are going to consider biking, you must bring a helmet with you to DC!

\* There is also a [DC Circulator bus with several routes](#) you might want to use (with one route that stops at the Rosslyn Metro stop in Arlington). The DC Circulator has one [route that traverses the entire National Mall](#) which is helpful if you are going longer distances – like going from the Vietnam Veterans Memorial to the Air and Space Museum (2.5 miles) or from Air and Space to the MLK Memorial (1.4 miles) or from the American History Museum to grab lunch at Union Station (1.5 miles).

### **Details and Maps**

The first time you go into a Metro station, when you go to the Fare Machine you need to purchase a "SmarTrip card" as part of your fare purchase (hard card, \$2). A separate SmarTrip card must be available for every passenger over age 5 – the card must be tapped on by each individual (over age 5) every time you enter and exit the Metro. You load money onto your SmarTrip card – fares vary according to distance and there is a map and fare chart by every card purchasing machine. The DC Metro system is very clean and safe. While trains usually run every 3-4 minutes during weekday rush hour, on Saturdays and Sundays train frequency is closer to 12-15 minutes. You can also use your SmarTrip card on the DC Circulator bus (fare is always \$1 per ride regardless of distance, with children under 5 riding free of charge).

If you might use Capital Bikeshare, please bring a helmet with you when you pack your wedding clothes :)

Metro system map: <https://www.wmata.com/schedules/maps/upload/2019-System-Map.pdf>

Interactive Metro map: <https://www.wmata.com/schedules/maps/index.cfm#main-content>

Capital Bikeshare dock locations: <https://secure.capitalbikeshare.com/map/> (You can do 24-hour pass for \$8.)

DC Circulator maps and rider tools: <https://www.dccirculator.com/>

## **FREE OF CHARGE, NO TICKETS REQUIRED, METRO ACCESSIBLE**

If a change from the Orange or Silver Line is needed to take Metro and get to the destination, that change in Metro lines is described. If the closest stop is on the Orange or Silver Line, then you take an Orange or Silver train in the direction of either New Carrollton or Largo and below just the Metro stop name is identified. There is a group of activities at the end that require significant walking but are fun if walking works for your group.

### **United States Botanic Garden**

The garden and plant exhibits here are quite beautiful and change from season to season – Federal Center SW or Capitol South Metro stations

Located at the bottom of Capitol Hill and across from the Air and Space Museum, so good to add if you're going to Air and Space and you want to walk by the West Lawn (front) of the US Capitol.

### **Carousel by Smithsonian Castle**

On the National Mall – Smithsonian Metro station.

Fun for families! Okay, this one is not free but no advance tickets necessary and it costs \$3.50 per person per ride. Close to the Asian Art Museum and Air and Space Museum, and right in front of the Smithsonian Castle (which has permanent displays about the history of the Smithsonian Institution and its holdings), so convenient to combine with those spots, and also across the mall (about .5 miles) from the Natural History Museum.

### **Kennedy Center and view of Washington, DC**

2700 F St, NW – Foggy Bottom Metro station (.4 mi to Kennedy Center)

Want to see a great view of DC? Do you think it would be cool to see all the flags of the 50 States (Hall of States) and all countries in the world (Hall of Nations)? Want to take a peak at the various performance spaces and hear about how the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts has really tried to inspire and support the arts? You can just walk around on your own, take a free tour from a docent, or follow a self-guided tour <https://www.kennedy-center.org/visit/Tour>. If you walk out on the balcony on the ground floor you get incredible views of Georgetown and Arlington (just across the Potomac) and you can also take the elevator up to the Terrace level and walk around all four sides of the Kennedy Center for a great view of the nation's capital.

### **Portrait Gallery**

Between 7<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> Streets, NW on F Street, NW – if coming from Clarendon or Court House Metro get off at Metro Center on either an Orange or Silver Line train, following the signs to the 11<sup>th</sup> and F Street exit and walk three blocks (Bikeshare docks are 1 block from Portrait Gallery).

Want to see a museum that is more downtown so you can get a feel of the city? Want to see all the official portraits of prior presidents? Want to see posters and portraiture through American history? The Portrait Gallery is a Smithsonian Museum not on the National Mall. It's just off of 7<sup>th</sup> Street which has tons of restaurants, right by the arena where the Washington Capitals play and .4 mile north of the National Archives.

### **Library of Congress**

Jefferson Building: 1<sup>st</sup> Street, SE between Independence Avenue and East Capitol Street (behind the US Capitol) – Capitol South Metro (2 blocks away).

The Library of Congress is the largest library in the world. If there is *any* topic you are interested in, you could find books, recordings, photos, posters and numerous other items about it here, most of it now online. While its formal function is to do research for Congress and maintain all holdings under US Copyright, the public can use the Library of Congress, too. For example, when the Nice family wanted to give a retirement gift to the long-time secretary at our local elementary school we went to the Library of Congress to obtain a copy of an early 1900s photo of her home

town in South Dakota. The Library of Congress consists of three massive buildings behind the United States Capitol. The building that is most accessible for the public is in the Jefferson Building. Want to sit down in the Library of Congress' [Main Reading Room](#) or see the [Gutenberg Bible](#)? Want to [do some research](#) before coming to Washington and then ask a Librarian to see some items in person? Want to see an [exhibit on women's right to vote in the US](#)? The Jefferson Building of the Library of Congress has this interesting exhibit, along with [Music exhibits \(Gershwins\)](#) and [Graphic Arts exhibits \(editorial cartoonist Herb Block\)](#).

Fun, free activities that require a lot of walking:

### **National Zoo**

3001 Connecticut Ave, NW – Cleveland Park Metro

From Clarendon or Courthouse Metro take Orange or Silver Line toward New Carrollton or Largo and get off at Metro Center, to switch to Red Line (toward Shady Grove or Grosvenor) and get off at Cleveland Park. A lot of people get off at Woodley Park/Zoo stop to go to the zoo (the Zoo is in the station name, after all) but Cleveland Park is just one stop further and features a mostly flat walk to the zoo entrance. Cleveland Park and Woodley Park are equidistant to the zoo entrance but Woodley Park is a hilly walk (uphill to the zoo, downhill when departing).

If you and your family enjoy zoos, this is a good one, and it's free, but note that this will require several hours of standing up and walking unless you remain in only the upper part of the zoo. As you can see on the [zoo map](#), visiting the upper part of the zoo doesn't require too much walking but visiting the other parts of the zoo does. The further you walk from the Connecticut Ave entrance you are walking downhill so an uphill walk to get out of the zoo.

### **Arlington National Cemetery**

Arlington Cemetery Metro station - Orange or Silver Line toward New Carrollton or Largo and get off at Rosslyn, switch to Blue Line toward Franconia/Springfield

Walking required once in the Cemetery - about 1 mile from Cemetery Metro to Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, for example - and expect large Memorial Day weekend crowds at JFK's Eternal Flame and changing of the guard at Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. But pretty powerful to hear taps at Arlington Cemetery (hourly on Memorial Day weekend, at Tomb of the Unknown Soldier) and various good views of DC.